

**GUIDELINES FOR VARIANCE REQUEST/BACKFLOW DEVICE
PLACEMENT
Effective September 1, 2004**

Fire Lines

MWS prefers the backflow device be located as close as possible to the main on the property. Request for variance to this policy should be submitted to the Permits office as a part of the preliminary plans review process. If variance includes inside placement of backflow, request should be submitted prior to obtaining Fire Marshall approval. MWS will continue to consider these situations on a case by case basis. Options may be given including the installation of an automatic flushing device or a waiver provided showing owner's responsibility for service line.

Domestic Lines

Low hazard commercial accounts may not be required to install backflow device on domestic service. Existing commercial accounts with backflow devices already installed on domestic services may request review to determine level of hazard. Existing devices must be kept in operational order or be removed. A yearly survey of commercial users will be conducted to verify continuing low hazard status. A change in tenant's type of business may require the installation.

Irrigation Backflow on Existing Domestic Line

If a backflow device is to be located at the dwelling, the service line from the meter to the backflow must meet MWS specifications for approved type of material and a check valve installed on the house side of the meter box. Existing line that is not an approved material must be replaced or service line responsibility waiver provided.

Existing meters or backflows requiring repairs will not be required to be relocated in accordance with "Placement of Backflow and Meter Guidelines". If a meter or backflow is out of compliance or is being replaced, relocation will be required.